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"Those Beautiful Eyes"

“Those Beautiful Eyes”

By
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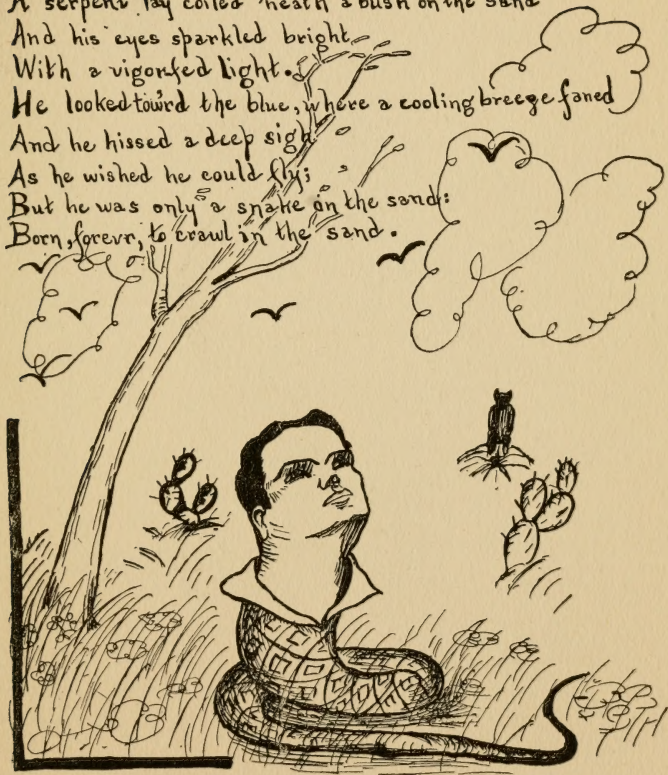
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no. 1.

Those Beautiful Eyes

A serpent lay coiled 'neath a bush on the sand
And his eyes sparkled bright
With a vigorous light.
He looked toward the blue, where a cooling breeze fanned
And he hissed a deep sigh
As he wished he could fly;
But he was only a snake in the sand:
Born, forever, to crawl in the sand.





II

A little green-wren gave her young wings a test.
How she laughed with delight
As she sped in her flight.
Her wings growing weary she settled to rest
And with welcome surprise
Looked down into the eyes
Of the gaudy marked snake on the sand;
Of the serpent coiled up on the sand.

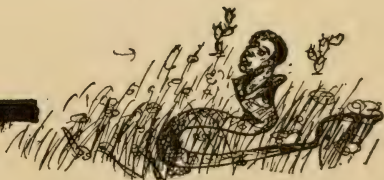


The mother's breast heaved as she noted the flight
And saw her young fledge
Pause to rest on the hedge :
Her pride and her joy were turned into fright
When she saw her heart's-prize
Gazing into the eyes
Of the serpent looking up from the sand;
Of the brilliant eyed snake on the sand.



IV

Look toward the zenith! Look away from the earth!
Cried the mother in fear;
But the youth would not hear.
She seemed to forget her own native worth.
She saw eyes, sparkling bright
With a lustrous light
Flaming up from the snake on the sand,
Dreamy-eyes of the snake on the sand.





O! What beautiful eyes." Sighs the love enrapt bird.
Her heart all afire
With a new found desire.
Of her mother's wild warning. She hears not a word
She forgets that the sky
Is all hers, if she'll fly.
But she longs to go down to the sand:
To the serpent looking up from the sand:





VI

The mother screams out a wild warning in vain
And with frightened despair
Beats about in the air,
The fledgeling not heeding; her young blood insane,
Thinks her mission's below
Where the haunting eyes glow
Of the lace-like marked snake on the sand;
Of the uniform snake on the sand.



VII

"I'm sure I can teach him to fly," sighed the wren.

As she dropped from her place

To a serpent's embrace.

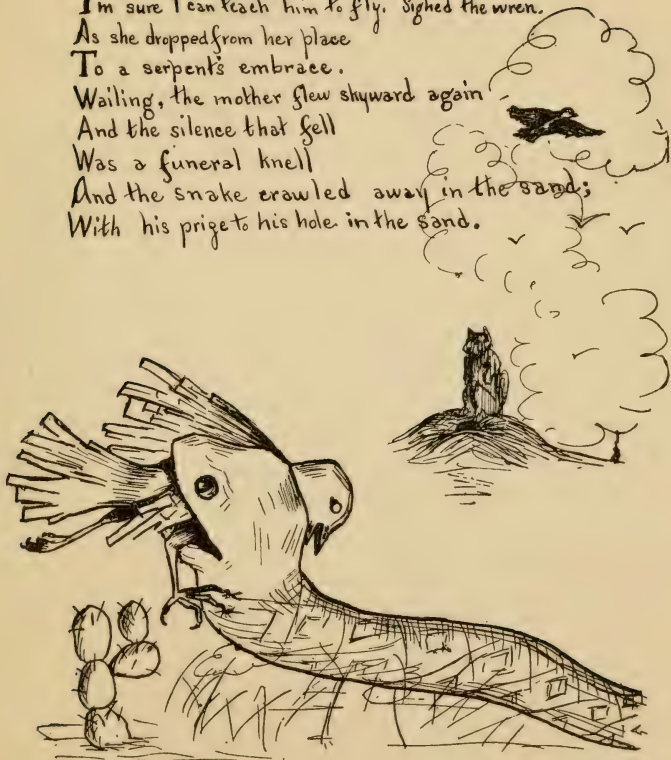
Wailing, the mother flew skyward again

And the silence that fell

Was a funeral knell

And the snake crawled away in the sand;

With his prize to his hole in the sand.



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